

NLN

New Jersey League
for Nursing

2022 NJLN NURSE RECOGNITION AND SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



Rooted in Purpose, Growing Towards the Future
107 Years of Promoting Excellence in Nursing Education

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN NURSING EDUCATION

★ Friday, November 4, 2022 ★
Pines Manor, Edison, New Jersey

RWJBarnabas Health proudly supports the
New Jersey League for Nursing and congratulates the following award recipients:

DAISY Nurse Leader Award for Nursing Clinical Educators

Adriana Senatore, MSN, RN, CPNP-PC, Children's Specialized Hospital

2022 NJLN Nurse Recognition Award

Teresita Medina, DNP, MAS, PMH, RN, BC, Clara Maass Medical Center

Constance C. Kozachek, PhD, MSN, CCRN, RN-BC, Trinitas School of Nursing at
Trinitas Regional Medical Center

John Lanier, MS, RN, NE-BC, Trinitas Regional Medical Center

Dr. Maureen Sullivan Foley Memorial Scholarship Award

Nicholas J. Lorenzo, Community Medical Center

New Jersey League for Nursing Scholarship Award Recipients

Jackie J. Baras, DNP, MBA, RN, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital

Lauren J. Bedell, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center

Yuliya V. Kucher, BAS, Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center



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Community Medical Center
Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center
Jersey City Medical Center
Monmouth Medical Center and
The Unterberg Children's Hospital
Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus
Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and
Children's Hospital of New Jersey

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and
The Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Hamilton
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Rahway
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset
Trinitas Regional Medical Center
RWJBarnabas Health Behavioral Health Center
Children's Specialized Hospital
Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Trinitas School of Nursing Congratulates the
2022 NJLN Nurse Recognition Award Recipients:

Constance C. Kozachek, PhD, MSN, CCRN, RN-BC

Trinitas School of Nursing at Trinitas Regional Medical Center

John Lanier, MS, RN, NE-BC

Nursing Performance Manager,
Trinitas Regional Medical Center

Past Award Recipients:

Dr. Lisa DiGiovanni

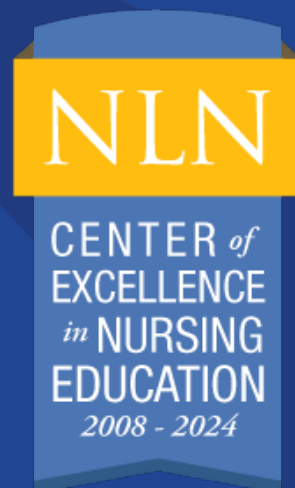
Dr. Dawn Zimmerman

Teresa Bowers, MS, RN, BC, CNE, CCRN, CCNS

Dr. Roseminda Santee

Dr. Janine Graf-Kirk

Dr. Timothy Clyne



**Trinitas School
of Nursing** | **RWJBarnabas
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 NLN New Jersey League
for Nursing

*Welcome to the
2022 Nurse Recognition and
Scholarship Awards Program*

Rooted in Purpose, Growing Towards the Future

- ★ Arrival... Dancing, Drinks, Photos, and Be Sure To Purchase Your Raffle Tickets!
- ★ President's Welcome and Opening Remarks
- ★ Dr. Maureen Sullivan Foley Memorial Scholarship Awards Recognition
- ★ Dinner Buffet
- ★ Awards Ceremony
 - Scholarship Awards
 - Nurse Recognition Awards
- ★ Dessert, Cappuccino & Espresso Bar
- ★ DAISY Awards Presentation
- ★ Raffle Drawings and Dancing!



*Thank You for Attending
New Jersey League for Nursing*

NJLN President's Message:

Welcome to the 2022 NJLN Nurse Recognition and Scholarship Awards Event!

Our NJLN awards program is a tradition that spans decades, and we are so pleased to be back together live this evening with you. Although we have hosted our awards program virtually the last two years, there is nothing like gathering in-person, which we were unable to do since 2019 due to the pandemic. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and remember the many colleagues that we have lost over the years, we honor their memory and the legacy that each has been left on the nursing profession.

Behind great nurses are great educators.

We chose this year's Nurse Recognition and Scholarship Awards Program theme of "*Rooted in Purpose, Growing Towards the Future*" to highlight the rich 107-year history of the NJLN and our dedication to nurse education. We are looking to the endless possibilities of the future and what's ahead for each of us. We thank all of you who have made outstanding contributions clinically, administratively, and academically within the profession of nursing. We have a wonderful celebration planned as we honor all of the nurses with us tonight, and specifically recognize some very special individuals through awards this evening.

Our awards program has four areas of recognition:

- The Dr. Maureen Sullivan Foley Memorial Scholarship Award, where you will meet the \$100,000 Scholarship Award recipients. The awards are made possible through the Community Health Connections Foundation, Inc., a private grant-making foundation that the NJLN is proud to have been selected to administer this significant grant award.
- The NJLN Scholarship Awards Program, where recipients will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship. They have demonstrated academic excellence and a commitment to nursing. We thank each of the scholarship donors, without their support these awards would not be possible. Many are with us tonight, so we thank you!
- Our Nurse Recognition Award recipients are a diverse group of professionals coming from all areas of health care, academia, practice, and leadership. They reflect the many roles of the New Jersey nurse. These professional nurses demonstrate a commitment to caring and through their work and leadership are meeting the demands of our diverse residents of our state to help build healthy communities.
- We are proud to introduce that we are a partner of the DAISY Foundation, and tonight for the first time in New Jersey we will award the DAISY Nurse Leader Award for Nursing Clinical Educators. Through our relationship with the Wisconsin League for Nursing (WLN) and the DAISY Foundation who collaboratively developed this award, we are able to recognize three awardees as exceptional nurses in clinical practice or simulation who exhibit, inspire and nurture compassion and respect amongst peers, mentees, students and colleagues.

Thank you for allowing me to share a little about this evening with you. We hope you enjoy reconnecting with fellow attendees or meeting new contacts, dining, dancing, participating in our raffles where you may win some great prizes, while donating to future scholarship awards, and of course, the most important reason we are here and that is placing a spotlight on the incredible nurses and future nurses we are recognizing. I must also thank the team that put this wonderful evening together, with special thanks to Susan Chandler, our talented Program Director who partners with us on our journey as she lives our mission, vision and values, by supporting and advocating for nursing education across the state not only through her leadership in delivering on tonight's event, but in all we do as an organization. I also thank our Board of Directors and Nurse Recognition Committee for helping to create such a memorable evening that we hope will remain in the minds and the hearts of the award recipients as well as those who came to celebrate their accomplishments.

We thank you for taking time to join us to support excellence in nursing and nurse education. So please enjoy the night with your colleagues, family, and friends.

Sincerely,



Mary E. Koch, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, CNOR





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Susan Chandler, BSBA
Program Director



About the NJLN...Our Mission

The New Jersey League for Nursing supports and implements the mission of the National League for Nursing to promote excellence in nursing education to build a strong and diverse nursing workforce to advance the health of our state, nation and the global community.

Our Philosophy

The New Jersey League for Nursing (NJLN) believes in the professional advancement of nursing education and practice through programs and opportunities that address the needs of diverse students, faculty and practicing nurses in a rapidly changing health care environment. We also believe in the importance of promoting collaboration, mentoring, networking to build relationships. We are stronger together and believe that it is important to positively promote nursing through education, producing programs, and publicly recognizing nursing excellence.

A Unique Organization

The NJLN is a diverse and inclusive professional organization with 107 years of experience in New Jersey, who supports registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, nurse educators, nursing students, and welcomes all to join us in our mission to support nursing. The NJLN gives an equal and respected voice to all who are involved in, or are the recipients of healthcare, and publicly acknowledges those individuals and agencies that serve as role models of nursing excellence.

The NJLN advances nursing education through continuing education programs for nursing faculty and practicing nurses and offers scholarships for entry level through advanced nursing degrees. The NJLN promotes the sharing of best practices and experiences as an active member in health care. The NJLN has a place for all of you whether as a member or supporter!

**The NJLN is the proud recipient of the 2022 National League for Nursing
Constituent League Excellence in Innovation Award.**

Please consider making a donation. If you would like to show your support for nursing education in New Jersey, we make donating easy. The NJLN appreciates all levels of support.

Text to Give or Scan the QR Code

Text the word **NJLN** to **243725** OR



@njlnursing

**Visit our website:
www.njln.org**

New Jersey League for Nursing Recognizes Past Presidents Through the Years

<i>1915</i>	<i>New Jersey State Organization for Public Health Nursing was established.</i>
<i>1915 – 1919</i>	<i>Helen Carol Howes, RN</i>
<i>1920 – 1922</i>	<i>Ida F. Austin, RN</i>
<i>1923 – 1924</i>	<i>Florence Dakin, RN</i>
<i>1925 – 1927</i>	<i>Jessie M. Murdoch, RN</i>
<i>1928 – 1939</i>	<i>(Records could not be found)</i>
<i>1940 – 1941</i>	<i>Nellie Ogilvie, RN</i>
<i>1941 – 1942</i>	<i>Marie A. Wooders, RN, BS</i>
<i>1942 – 1943</i>	<i>Evelyn T. Walker, RN</i>
<i>1943 – 1944</i>	<i>Caroline diDonato, RN</i>
<i>1944 – 1946</i>	<i>Jessie M. Murdoch, RN</i>
<i>1946 – 1947</i>	<i>Bernice E. Anderson, RN</i>
<i>1947 - 1948</i>	<i>Margaret B. Allen, RN</i>
<i>1948 – 1950</i>	<i>Eleanor P. Duffy, RN</i>
<i>1951 – 1952</i>	<i>Laura Robinson, RN</i>
<i>1952</i>	<i>Organization became the New Jersey League for Nursing, Inc. (NJLN)</i>
<i>1952 – 1956</i>	<i>Henrietta G. Korolenko, RN (First President of the NJLN)</i>
<i>1956 - 1960</i>	<i>Margaret Allen, RN</i>
<i>1960 – 1964</i>	<i>Amy Atchley, RN</i>
<i>1964 – 1968</i>	<i>Marion G. Mitchell, RN</i>
<i>1968 – 1970</i>	<i>Martha E. Esposito, RN</i>
<i>1970 - 1972</i>	<i>Grace Marie Howard, RN</i>

New Jersey League for Nursing Parade of Presidents Through the Years

1972 – 1974	<i>Catherine J. Molinair, RN</i>
1974 – 1976	<i>Sarah L. Sherlock, RN</i>
1976 – 1978	<i>Ruth B. Belanus, RN</i>
1978 - 1980	<i>Grace Phelan, RN</i>
1980 – 1982	<i>Doris Geyer, RN, M.Ed</i>
1982 – 1983	<i>J. Patricia Adaszczik, RN, MSN</i>
1983 – 1986	<i>Patsy Krzaczek, RN, MA</i>
1986 – 1988	<i>Maureen Sullivan Foley, Ph.D, RN, CNA</i>
1988 – 1990	<i>Gloria M. Corbo, RN, M.Ed</i>
1990 – 1992	<i>Ruth Walter Laing, RN, MA</i>
1992 – 1994	<i>Barbara Ruane, RN, MSN</i>
1994 – 1996	<i>Louise M. DeBlois, MA, M.Ed</i>
1996 – 1998	<i>John DiBrango, RN, M.Ed</i>
1998 – 2000	<i>Marvin Van Dyk, FACHCA</i>
2000 – 2002	<i>Cheryl Szenasi, RN, MSN</i>
2002 – 2004	<i>Linda Cuoco Lewis, RN, MSA, CNA, BC</i>
2004 – 2006	<i>Elizabeth Stitley, RN, MSN</i>
2006 – 2010	<i>Michelle L. Foley, MA, RN, CNE</i>
2010 – 2012	<i>Eileen P. Williamson, MSN, RN</i>
2012 – 2014	<i>Carol Patterson, MSN, RN, CNE</i>
2014 – 2016	<i>Patricia Castaldi, DNP, RN, ANEF</i>
2016 – 2018	<i>Donna L. Murray, MSN, RN, APN, WHNP-BC</i>
2018 – 2020	<i>John Lanier, MS, RN, NE-BC</i>
2020 – 2022	<i>Tracy A. Orтели, PhD, RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN</i>



**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR
GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS!**

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2022 Dr. Maureen Sullivan Foley Memorial Scholarship Awards

AWARDS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH A GRANT BY THE
COMMUNITY HEALTH CONNECTIONS FOUNDATION, INC.

Dr. Maureen Sullivan Foley
NJLN President
1986 – 1988

\$100,000
Congratulations

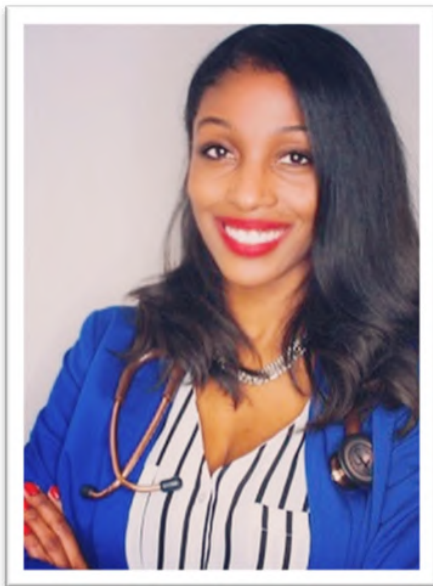
\$100,000 in scholarships awarded to the following incredible recipients in support of their nursing education.

\$20,000 for Doctorate Degree

\$10,000 for Master of Science in Nursing and

\$10,000 for Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Doctorate Degree, \$20,000 Scholarship Recipients



Clarese M. Bradley
MSN, RN, AG-ACNP
Doctor of Nursing Practice



Ashley V. Weinmann
MSN, FNP-BC, AGACNP-BC, ACHPN
Doctor of Nursing Practice



2022 Dr. Maureen Sullivan Foley Memorial Scholarship Awards *Congratulations... \$100,000*

Master of Science in Nursing Degree, \$10,000 Scholarship Recipients



Meaghan Bottino
BSN, RN, CSN-NJ
Master of Science in Nursing



Alexandria H. Constantin
RN, BSN, CCRN
Master of Science in Nursing



Yesenia A. Pena
BSN, RN, CDP
Master of Science in Nursing



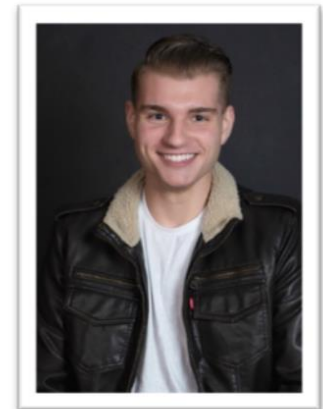
Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree, \$10,000 Scholarship Recipients



Gianna M. Glover
Bachelor of Science in Nursing



Udochukwu Igweze
Bachelor of Science in Nursing



Nicholas J. Lorenzo
Bachelor of Science in Nursing



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HONORING NURSES INTERNATIONALLY
IN MEMORY OF J. PATRICK BARNES

Congratulations to the First New Jersey Recipients of the DAISY Nurse Leader Award for Nursing Clinical Educators



Sherr Ann Arabit

DNP, RN, NPD-BC, CCRN-K, MEDSURG-BC

Professional Development Educator
Hackensack Meridian Health
Raritan Bay Medical Center &
Old Bridge Medical Center



Kathryn Labriola

Ed.D, MSN, RN, CNE, BC

Nursing Instructor
Holy Name Medical Center



Adriana Senatore

MSN, RN, CPNP-PC

**Director of Center for
Professional Practice
Innovation and Research**
Children's Specialized Hospital
RWJBarnabas Health

Award Purpose: The purpose of the Award is to recognize exceptional nurses in clinical practice or simulation who exhibit, inspire and nurture compassion and respect amongst peers, mentees, students, or colleagues. These nurses directly influence learning in clinical practice/simulation and play a crucial role in forming exceptional frontline nurses. In turn, these individuals encourage nurses or nursing students to exhibit acts of compassion and build relationships with patients and families.

Nurses eligible for this Award include those who influence and develop nurses or nursing students at the site of direct or simulated patient care. Eligible nurses include formal educators by title/role and informal educators not defined by their job description or title.

History: The DAISY Nurse Leader Award for Nursing Clinical Educators, formerly known as the DAISY Nurse Leader Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educators, was established in 2021 in collaboration with the Wisconsin League for Nursing (WLN) and The DAISY Foundation. In 2022, the New Jersey League for Nursing collaborated with the WLN and expanded the award to New Jersey.



HONORING NURSES INTERNATIONALLY
IN MEMORY OF J. PATRICK BARNES



Sherr Ann Arabit

DNP, RN, NPD-BC, CCRN-K,
MEDSURG-BC

Professional Development Educator
Hackensack Meridian Health
Raritan Bay Medical Center &
Old Bridge Medical Center

Nomination write-up for honoree Sherr Ann Arabit as submitted by Xinna Yu, BSN, RN

Dear Nomination Committee, I am writing this letter to nominate Sherr Ann Arabit for the DAISY Award. She is an excellent educator a massive asset to our nursing practice and deserves this award and recognition. Sherr Ann was an educator before I started my position at OBMC. She has always been a mentor to our new nurses since I began. As a new RN on the floor, I observed that she's always reachable for questions always leading RNs to the best practice and enthusiastic about teaching and demonstrating skills new that RNs are unfamiliar with. Especially during the covid time there are many new guidelines for isolation PPE and medication practices. Sherr Ann is always there to educate us help us understand the process and ensure we retain the required information. On a daily basis she assists the unit's needs by jumping into code RRT and Code Blue which is a big help for the team to navigate through code narrator in Epic and provide on-site answers for team members. Sherr Ann facilitates the learning and improvement of RNs Patient Care Technicians and Telemetry Monitor Technicians. She continuously assesses if team members are okay every day on the floor. As a clinical educator Sherr Ann must keep learning and share her learning with the team. We have the chance to work with her to promote our unit mobility rate with our elderly patients. Thanks to her study we understand and demonstrate the importance of early and daily ambulation for patients. The outcome of Sherr Ann's study on the floor was outstanding. The fall rate decreased. Even after the study was completed, we still encouraged our patients to ambulate daily. Sherr Ann always provides information for team members to advance their roles in health professions. As a clinical educator she shares her knowledge of the educational path for us. Sherr Ann encourages us to grow our practice levels by taking more certification exams for example the Med-Surge certificate and ONCC Chemotherapy Immunotherapy Certificate Course. She would provide time frames that she's available to go over questions for preparing the tests with us. Sherr Ann also encourages and assists us in achieving RN CAP. Our team members were able to complete on time because Sherr Ann worked with them for a short period continuously right before the deadline to meet all requirements.

Also, Sherr Ann is always looking out for team members to advance their roles. She always reaches out to leadership for any chance of the team members for certifications or job duty changes for role changing for example cross job training for telemetry monitor techniques. Most of our monitor techniques were cross-trained from other positions. The team always has support from Sherr Ann. Not only just the knowledge that she shares with the team to advance their skills or professional role but also the willingness to serve the patients with the team as a whole. We have witnessed multiple times during our shifts that she's walking around the unit and always answering the call lights to help the patients professionally and respectfully. If she's unable to provide the needs of that patient's request at that time she always turns to the proper team members to help patients. She also takes her chance to speak with the patient to educate patients regarding CHF early ambulation and medication information. Despite the overwhelming work everyone has to do She consistently finds ways to look for the best opportunity for teaching and promoting critical thinking and judgments. For example, during RRT times she would help the teams navigate code narrators and help the team members understand the reasons behind the orders.² During our COVID time there are many new team members; she is always there for our RRTs. Especially if any intubation needed to happen on the unit, she jumped in to help with medication preparation and walk team members through the process of intubation and sedation. In addition, Sherr Ann helps team members review the skills not always utilized during daily practice; for example, we have peritoneal dialysis patients on the floor. One time we had to start early in the daytime per the physician's order. Sherr Ann was there with the RN to walk her through the process; even though there was an issue with the machine at nighttime she was able to respond to the questions to help troubleshoot at night to make sure the patient could have a complete PD. And also, Sherr Ann always ensures new employees can perform skills proper for patient care. For example, new nurses are hesitant about IV insertion due to a lack of practice. Sherr Ann is always there to instruct nurses to go through the process and company them for IV insertion. There's a patient who was very nervous with a needle. Sherr Ann brought the RN into the room and could distract the patient during the conversation. As a result, the RN could complete the IV insertion without complications. That RN was me. This experience taught me the power of communication and confidence in my future practice because we always have her support.

Sherr Ann's willingness to assist others and her commitment to educating team members are unequalled. Team members have all noted that Sherr Ann is thorough and provides excellent service and she consistently follows through. With great pleasure I respectfully submit this nomination for Sherr Ann Arabit to be recognized as the DAISY Award winner.



HONORING NURSES INTERNATIONALLY
IN MEMORY OF J. PATRICK BARNES



Kathryn Labriola

Ed.D MSN, RN, CNE, BC

Holy Name Medical Center

Nursing Instructor

Nomination write-up for honoree Dr. Kathryn Labriola as submitted by Dr. Donna Penn

Dr. Labriola embodies a passion for nursing education and the future of nursing. She has been a nurse at Holy Name for over 40 years and a nurse educator for the Holy Name Sister Claire Tynan School of Nursing for over 20 years. She fosters a compassionate learning environment through her engaging lecture presentations where she immerses students into the clinical scenario. She makes learning stimulating exciting and fun as she builds their blossoming clinical judgment skills.

As a clinical instructor she works alongside her students guiding their clinical practice in a caring and supportive environment. Clinical and lecture evaluations indicate she is caring professional knowledgeable and a rock star when it comes to clinical practice. Kathy has fostered the development of critical thinking and clinical judgement in her students by designing NCLEX Next Generation classroom scenarios which place the student in real-life clinical situations challenging them to come up with practice decisions. It is easy to see that Kathy enjoys teaching and developing a spirit of inquiry in students taking them to levels they never imaged they could achieve. Her nursing skills coupled with her enthusiasm for nursing make her an excellent mentor to help build the front-line nurses of tomorrow. She has a natural way of bringing clinical concepts to life in the classroom helping students to fully grasp and understand difficult and challenging clinical situations.

Kathy is well respected within the Holy Name community and the School of Nursing. She is a leader and collaborator through her work on several School of Nursing committees. She chairs both the Library and Evaluation committees and also serves on the Holy Name Nurse Resident Advisory Board. Her dedication to the organization school and students is evident in the many hours she puts in at the school advising and mentoring students. She fosters interprofessional communication skills in her students through her professional attitudes and behaviors in both the classroom and clinical setting. She is a true role model for students and young nurses entering professional practice.

Kathy achieved her Doctor of Education in Curriculum and continues to grow in her profession by attending relevant professional development activities. She strives to provide her students with relevant meaningful and evidence-based education to build their professional identities as future nurses. It is with great pleasure and pride that I nominate Dr. Labriola for the NJLN DAISY Nurse Leader Award for Nursing Clinical Educators.



HONORING NURSES INTERNATIONALLY
IN MEMORY OF J. PATRICK BARNES



Adriana Senatore
MSN, RN, CPNP-PC
Director of Center for
Professional Practice,
Innovation and Research
Children's Specialized Hospital

Nomination write-up for Dr. Adriana Senatore as submitted by Dr. Kelly Keefe-Marcoux

I nominate Adriana Senatore, MSN CPNP-PC for DAISY Nurse Leader Award for Nursing Clinical Educators. Adriana has many years' experience taking care of critically ill children and has been a nurse educator for 12 years. She has worked at Children's Specialized Hospital for just over a year, but she has facilitated so many changes and grown the staff in so many positive ways. We are delighted to have Adriana as the Director of Professional Nursing Practice here at Children's Specialized Hospital. Adriana is dedicated to teaching and preparing our staff; they always feel more knowledgeable confident and safer after meeting with her.

Adriana has a presence on the units as a resource supporting staff w/ new practices and protocols; they are comfortable asking her to help; from starting difficult IV's and/or assisting with difficult blood draws to demonstrating new equipment and performing wound care for a significant open chest wound Adriana is there. Adriana eases staff anxiety by creating job aids with step-by-step directions and reinforces and increases knowledge with educational games.

Adriana teaches and communicates in a way that is fun and easy to understand; she is responsive to questions and collaboration. The staff relate to her because she is there for them whether it is late at night or early in the morning she is there. Two specific examples of Adriana's dedication and leadership was when she and her team collaborated with nursing staff to install the new O2 monitoring system in LTC and the hospital wide rollout of ENfit. In LTC the nursing education team led the transition of their continuous O2 monitoring system for 50 patients working tirelessly to set up all the monitors input alarm settings and ensure that the residents were all safely monitored. Adriana and her team were there from 7am-11pm. Providing education and training for ENFit the global change for enteral tube feeding devices specific to tube feedings. This standardization involved reviewing new supplies and process changes and involved coordination with multiple departments and then educating all of nursing at all inpatient sites.

As a leader in pediatric practice throughout the RWJBH System Adriana reviews and revises pediatric policies and brings them back to the pediatric hospital collaborative to discuss and roll out. Adrianna coordinates review classes for pediatric specialty certification and plans pediatric conferences throughout the year. Our first pediatric oncology conference will be open to our nursing colleagues throughout the RWJBH System this fall. She is a mentor and preceptor and worked with two RNs this year to provide unique learning experiences that will prepare them for advanced nursing degrees.

Adriana effectively works with different personalities and is sensitive to different needs. She leads by example and offers guidance and expertise in multiple arenas. This past summer we had our first nurse extern program and Adriana created a fabulous curriculum with didactic and clinical experiences. The 4 nurse externs were very happy and thankful for their experiences and 3 have stayed on as patient care technicians and hope to work here when they graduate.



HONORING NURSES INTERNATIONALLY
IN MEMORY OF J. PATRICK BARNES

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE NOMINEES

- **Marifi Agabao, BSN, RN, CCRN, Hackensack Meridian Raritan Bay Medical Center**
- **Illya DeVera-Bonilla, MSN, RN, Trinitas School for Nursing**
- **Terry Bowers, MS, RN, BC, CNE, CCRN, CCNS, Trinitas School for Nursing**
- **Dina Carilo, DNP, RN, CCRN-K, Hackensack Meridian Raritan Bay Medical Center**
- **Marie Costa, MPA, BSN, RN, CNOR, Hackensack Meridian Raritan Bay Medical Center**
- **Gary Fassler, MSN, RN, Thomas Edison State University**
- **Doreen Gagnon, DNP, APN-C, Bloomfield College**
- **Mary Jane Genuino, DNP, RN-BC, Felician University**
- **William Gomez, RN, Hackensack Meridian Raritan Bay Medical Center**
- **Mila Jones, MSN, CCRN, Holy Name Medical Center, Sister Claire Tynan School of Nursing**
- **Francine Latourette, MSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, TCRN, Jersey Shore University Medical Center**
- **Nichole Phu, MSN, RN, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, RWJBarnabas Health**
- **Joel Regalado, DNP, APN-C, ACCN, Bloomfield College**
- **Debra Schrek, MSN-Ed, RN, Hackettstown Medical Center, Atlantic Health System**
- **Carole Skalski, MS, RN, Trinitas Regional Medical Center, RWJBarnabas Health**
- **Dawn Zimmerman, DNP, RN-BC, CNE, Trinitas School for Nursing**



We thank all who took time to nominate an extraordinary nurse by sharing your nomination submission with us!



Congratulations

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

**Jackie J. Baras, DNP, MBA, RN, Rutgers University, Doctor of Nursing Practice
New Jersey League for Nursing Scholarship Award**

**Lauren J. Bedell, Trinitas School of Nursing, Diploma in Nursing, with an Associate in Science Degree
The Raymond J. Santee Memorial Scholarship Award**

**Emily Elley, Ocean County Vocational Technical School, Practical Nursing Program
Ellen Thomas and William Frank Memorial Scholarship Award**

**Yuliya Kucher RN, BSN, MS-BC, CCRN, Rutgers University, Doctor of Nursing Practice
New Jersey League for Nursing Scholarship Award**

**Florescia Favale Maier, Trinitas School of Nursing, Diploma in Nursing, with an Associate in Science Degree
Friends of Nursing Scholarship Award**

**Lucy McKeon, The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Mary Ann Sharkey RN Memorial Scholarship Award**

**Mercy Nyambane, Hudson County Community College (HCCC), Associate Degree in Nursing
Dr. Barbara Chamberlain Transition Scholarship Award**

**Hetal J. Patel, Trinitas School of Nursing, Diploma in Nursing, with an Associate in Science Degree
Stanley Gallagher Memorial Scholarship Award**

**Rachel Rosmarin, Georgian Court University, Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Gialanella Scholarship Award**

**Dione Sandiford, MSN, RN, CHSE, Rutgers University, PhD in Nursing Science
Jack Robertson Memorial Scholarship Award**

**Pavel Siutsou, BSN, RN, CCRN, RRNA, Rutgers University, Doctor of Nursing Practice - Anesthesia
Friends of Nursing Scholarship Award**

**Monina Franco-Tantuico, MSN, BSMT, RN, CNE, CCRN-a, Rutgers University, PhD in Nursing Science
NurseThink.com Scholarship Award**



NJLN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



PRESENTED TO
JACKIE J. BARAS
DNP, MBA, RN



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE



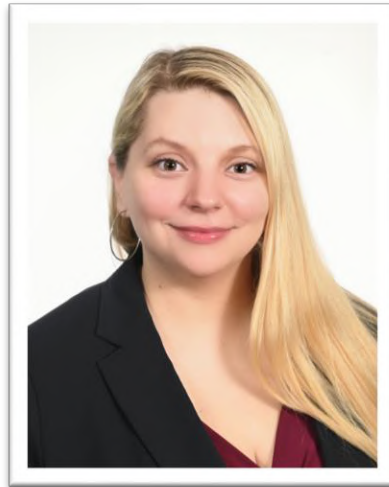
*THIS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AWARD OF
\$1,000 IS BEING PRESENTED THROUGH THE
NEW JERSEY LEAGUE FOR NURSING'S
ONGOING COMMITMENT TO PROMOTE
EXCELLENCE IN NURSING EDUCATION.*

RAYMOND J. SANTEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



PRESENTED TO

LAUREN J. BEDELL



TRINITAS SCHOOL OF NURSING
RN DIPLOMA AND ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE

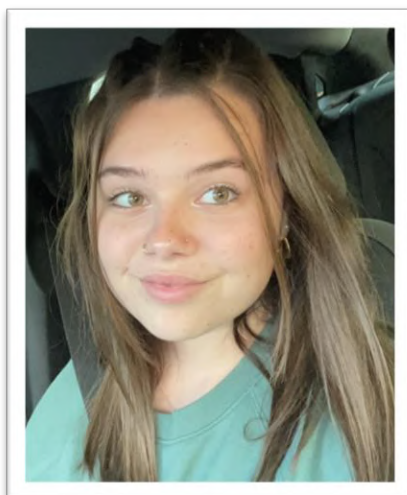
*THIS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000 IS BEING
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RAYMOND J. SANTEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
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ELLEN THOMAS & WILLIAM FRANK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



PRESENTED TO

EMILY ELLEY



**OCEAN COUNTY VOCATIONAL
TECHNICAL SCHOOL
PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM**

*THIS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AWARD OF \$1,000
IS BEING PRESENTED THROUGH THE
ELLEN THOMAS & WILLIAM FRANK MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD, GENEROUSLY DONATED
BY THE LANIER FAMILY.*

NJLN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



PRESENTED TO

YULIYA KUCHER
RN, BSN, MS-BC, CCRN



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE



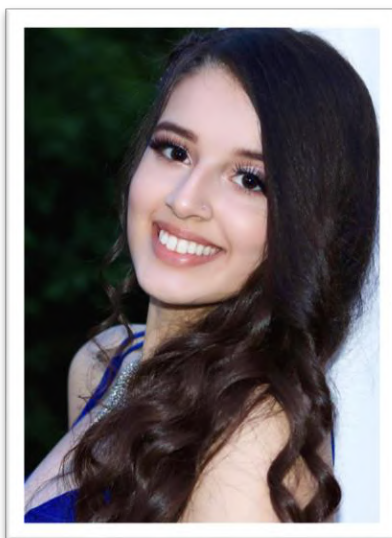
*THIS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AWARD OF
\$1,000 IS BEING PRESENTED THROUGH THE
NEW JERSEY LEAGUE FOR NURSING'S
ONGOING COMMITMENT TO PROMOTE
EXCELLENCE IN NURSING EDUCATION.*

FRIENDS OF NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



PRESENTED TO

FLORENCIA FAVALE MAIER



**TRINITAS SCHOOL OF NURSING
RN DIPLOMA AND ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE**



THIS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AWARD OF \$1,000 IS BEING PRESENTED THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF THE FRIENDS OF NURSING. GENEROUS DONORS FUNDED THIS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD IN SUPPORT OF THEIR COMMITMENT TO NURSING EDUCATION.

MARY ANN SHARKEY RN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



PRESENTED TO

LUCY MCKEON



**THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY (TCNJ)
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING**

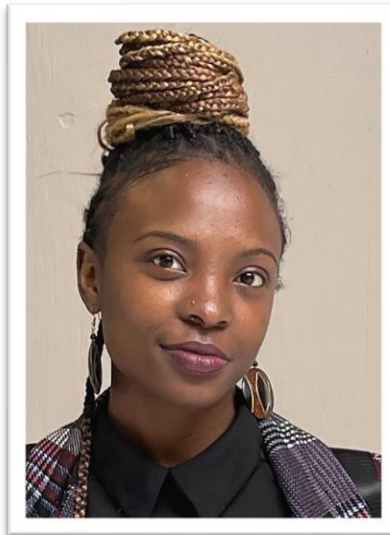
*THIS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000 IS
BEING PRESENTED THROUGH THE MARY ANN
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AWARD, GENEROUSLY DONATED BY
MARY ANN'S SON VICTOR RACZKA AND HIS
WIFE, WHO IS A NURSE, TRACY SCALETTI.*

DR. BARBARA CHAMBERLAIN TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



PRESENTED TO

MERCY NYAMBANE



HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN NURSING

THE DR. BARBARA CHAMBERLAIN TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000 IS BEING PRESENTED THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF DR. CHAMBERLAIN WHO IS COMMITTED TO NURSING EDUCATION EXCELLENCE. DR. CHAMBERLAIN IS A MENTOR AND ROLE MODEL TO SO MANY IN NURSING AND HEALTH CARE.

STANLEY GALLAGHER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



PRESENTED TO

HETAL J. PATEL



TRINITAS SCHOOL OF NURSING
RN DIPLOMA AND ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE



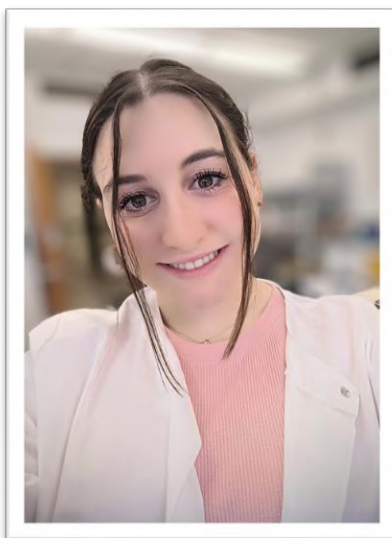
*THIS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AWARD OF
\$1,000 IS BEING PRESENTED THROUGH THE
GENEROSITY OF DONORS TO THE STANLEY
GALLAGHER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF NJLN PAST PRESIDENT
DONNA MURRAY'S FATHER.*

GIALANELLA SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



PRESENTED TO

RACHEL ROSMARIN



**GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING**



***THIS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AWARD OF
\$1,000 IS BEING PRESENTED THROUGH THE
GENEROSITY OF DAVID & KATHLEEN
GIALANELLA TO EXPRESS THEIR COMMITMENT
TO THE NURSING PROFESSION.***

JACK ROBERTSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



PRESENTED TO
DIONE SANDIFORD
MSN, RN, CHSE



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
PHD IN NURSING SCIENCE

THE JACK ROBERTSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000 IS BEING PRESENTED THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF MR. ROBERTSON'S FAMILY.

MR. ROBERTSON WAS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS, REPRESENTING JOHNSON & JOHNSON CORPORATION. JACK'S VISION OF NURSING EXCELLENCE RECOGNIZED THAT NURSES ARE THE LIFEBLOOD OF THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.

FRIENDS OF NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



PRESENTED TO
PAVEL SIUTSOU
BSN, RN, CCRN, RRNA



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE - ANESTHESIA

*THIS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AWARD OF \$1,000 IS
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THE FRIENDS OF NURSING. GENEROUS DONORS
FUNDED THIS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD IN SUPPORT OF
THEIR COMMITMENT TO NURSING EDUCATION.*

**NurseThink.com
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**



PRESENTED TO
MONINA FRANCO-TANTUICO
MSN, BSMT, RN, CNE, CCRN-A



**RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
PHD IN NURSING SCIENCE**



*THIS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000 IS BEING
PRESENTED THROUGH THE NURSETHINK.COM
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD. NURSETHINK'S MISSION IS TO
EMPOWER EDUCATORS AND LEARNERS FOR SUCCESS
IN LIFE AND LEADERSHIP.*



2022 Premier Contributors

The New Jersey League for Nursing extends our sincere appreciation to these supporters for their generous contributions making our scholarship awards program possible.

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Richard Hager

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Laurie Pappaceno

Victor Raczka and Tracy Scaletti

Dr. Roseminda Santee

Stanley Gallagher Memorial Donors

Raymond Zenere



Congratulations

2022 NJLN Nurse Recognition Award Recipients

★ **Mary Jane Genuino, DNP, RN-BC**
Felician University

★ **Constance Kozachek, PhD, MSN, CCRN, RN-BC**
Trinitas School of Nursing, RWJBarnabas Health

★ **John Lanier, MS, RN, NE-BC**
Trinitas Regional Medical Center

★ **Teresita C. Medina, DNP, MAS, PMH, RN, BC**
Clara Maass Medical Center, RWJBarnabas Health

★ **Jackelyn Rodriguez Lugo, MS, BSN, RN, CRRN**
Hackensack Meridian Health, Johnson Rehabilitation Institute

★ **Alissa V. Walaszek, BSN, RN**
Hackensack Meridian Health, Johnson Rehabilitation Institute

★ **J. Cedar Wang, APN, RN**
Holy Name Medical Center



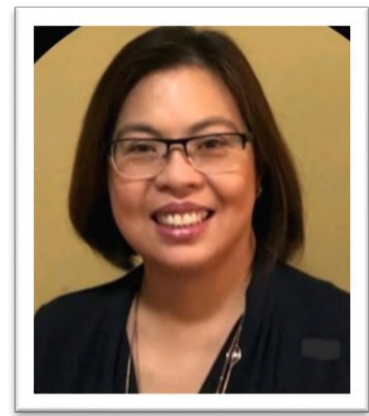
We honor and thank each of these award recipients for their contributions and dedication to the profession of nursing and the difference they make every day.

Nurse Recognition Award

MARY JANE GENUINO

DNP, RN-BC

FELICIAN UNIVERSITY



Dr. Mary Jane Genuino is an Assistant Professor at Felician University and also works per diem as an RN in a Neurology/Ventilator Unit.

Dr. Genuino's cheerful demeanor, a quest for knowledge, and willingness to go the extra mile have positively impacted the people she engages with professionally, and in the community. As an instructor, her students know they can reach out to her without hesitation to understand a difficult concept without judgment. Her impact is felt with her students and is demonstrated through her positive student evaluations at the end of each term.

Dr. Genuino leadership roles are countless, having made a significant impact in many areas of nursing. One stellar example included taking over the position as department chair of a local college's Nursing and PCT program within weeks of the PN programs scheduled re-accreditation site visit and within several months of the PN to BSN program's initial visit for full accreditation. The process was not easy in any ordinary circumstance and being new in her position it was even more challenging, but her efforts resulted in a successful outcome with full accreditation.

A devastating, life changing moment happened for Dr. Genuino and her family. Experiencing loss can provide a person with a different perspective in life. After losing her husband to COVID complications, Dr. Genuino started a support group online for widowed nurses who lost their spouses to the virus. She felt that the grief they experienced is more compounded due to their work and the patients they see daily and having a forum to talk to those who genuinely understand was important. And she is glad to have meet nurses who have suffered the same kind of loss as she did.

Dr. Genuino decided during this time of unthinkable loss that she would return back to the bedside. She directly cared for patients in a COVID-19 unit in a hospital where she had previously worked and took on 12-hour shifts during weekends, while she also continued to be the College Chair of the Nursing and Patient Care Technician program. In addition to working in these many nursing roles, she also continued to teach online courses while the college campuses remained closed due to the pandemic. In her own words, "It's more important than ever to train the next generation of healthcare workers. They're so desperately needed in all areas of care."

Dr. Genuino has edited and contributed to a chapter in the 5th edition of Critical Care Nursing Made Incredibly Easy by Wolter Kluwer. Her research on moral distress amongst critical care nurses who cared for COVID patients, was also a cathartic exercise. She thanks Felician University for providing her the opportunity to complete the research. She is an editorial member of the Lupine Online Journal of Nursing and Healthcare. She is currently the president of NJSNA for Region 2 and co-chair of the Philippine Nurses Association of New Jersey's Education Committee. She is also a member of Action Together NJ — a grassroots organization involved in lobbying for political change and other issues affecting NJ nationwide.

Message from Mary Jane: I would like to thank my family, especially my daughters, Geraldine and Grace. I would also like to acknowledge Dr. Tess Medina for being a great mentor and friend.

Nurse Recognition Award

CONSTANCE KOZACHEK

PhD, MSN, CCRN, RN-BC

TRINITAS SCHOOL OF NURSING, RWJBH



Dr. Constance Kozachek is the Associate Dean of Trinitas School of Nursing, RWJBH. Her doctoral dissertation topic, *Factors that Influenced Health Behaviors Among Middle Eastern College Women*, was cultivated from observations made while interacting with nursing students at Trinitas School of Nursing. She was a 2021 graduate from Rutgers University/NJIT Joint Urban Systems PhD Program, Urban Health Track, which focused on the social determinants of health and the interactions between health, environment, and education achievement. Upon completing her PhD, she joined Trinitas as the Associate Dean where she contributed to the school's success in attaining continuing accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and the NJ Board of Nursing and receiving the fourth designation for Trinitas School of Nursing as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education by the National League for Nursing. With her experience and education, Dr. Kozachek provides consultation to the Jewish Family Services of Central New Jersey in Elizabeth, NJ and is a Medical Records Reviewer for legal services.

Dr. Kozachek started in healthcare as a licensed practical nurse. While working as an LPN at Elizabeth General Medical Center, she decided to become a registered nurse and enrolled in Middlesex Community College Associate in Nursing program. She pursued her bachelor's degree in Nursing and her master's degree in Transcultural Nursing from Kean University. Dr. Kozachek demonstrates a model for creating a personal success plan for a nursing career and academic progression in nursing education. Through her own academic journey, she continued to provide nursing care as a staff nurse and a Critical Care Nurse for which she was board-certified by the American Nurses Credentialing Center as an RN-BC in Nursing Professional Development and as CCRN. She worked for several years at Elizabeth General Hospital Medical Center/Trinitas Regional Medical Center as a Critical Care Nurse and was promoted to the Department of Education, Training and Development as a staff educator and later as the Director of the Department. Her position as adjunct clinical faculty and now as Associate Dean is testament to her dedication to investing in and developing nurses to serve the communities of New Jersey.

Her community service includes being on the Advisory Boards of Kean University, and Union County College Practical Nursing Program. She is a member of the Italian American Service Organization (UNICO), was a chapter president, and a Scholarship Committee member. She is a member of the National League for Nursing, the NJ League for Nursing, American Association of Critical Care Nurses, Association of Nursing Professional Development, Infusion Nurses Society and Sigma Theta Tau.

Message from Constance: I would like to acknowledge the continuous support of my husband, Walter, and my children Daniel and Christina.

A special thank-you to Dr. Roseminda Santee, the staff, and faculty of Trinitas School of Nursing for working with me every day. Thank you to our students at Trinitas School of Nursing, for trusting our guidance and teaching.

Nurse Recognition Award

JOHN LANIER
MS, RN, NE-BC

TRINITAS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER, RWJBH



John Lanier is currently the Nursing Performance Improvement (PI) Program Manager at Trinitas Regional Medical Center (TRMC) where he is also serving as the Interim Manager of Inpatient Maternal Child Health. In his PI role John oversees and leads nursing quality and safety improvement projects and data collection. In his MCH Manager role, he is responsible for the day-to-day operations of L&D, Mother Baby and Intermediate Care Nursery.

John is an exemplary servant leader with his nursing career spanning 40+ years. At the start of the pandemic, after a very brief stint as a retired nurse, John was welcomed back to by TRMC. Under John's leadership, TRMC staff successfully and safely administered more than 38,000 COVID vaccinations and boosters to staff and people throughout Union County. Only with his characteristic methodical thinking and his attention to detail did those efforts happen smoothly and efficiently. His POD leadership was also recognized when he was asked by the City of Elizabeth to present on the POD's unique collaborative approach between TRMC and the Elizabeth Board of Education to the city and hospital leaders of Elizabeth's sister city, Kitami, Japan.

John is deeply committed to patient care and teaching as he has served in leadership roles in both service and education, but recently in an interim role as MCH Manager wherein he has embraced a specialty in which he has no previous experience. Despite this, John has worked with the staff to introduce High Reliability Organization principles to enhance the safety environment for moms and babies. Implementing daily unit-based safety huddles, he is working to improve communication among the care team; assuring their awareness and commitment to quality initiatives; teaching and reinforcing HRO behaviors; and rewarding positive safety behaviors.

John began his nursing career as an LPN and presenting to LPN students about his lifelong learning successes is one of his proudest moments. He is a role model for them demonstrating how important their position is in the larger healthcare system. That same energy served as the foundation for his role as Trinitas School of Nursing Faculty working with diploma/associate students. He was a highly respected and appreciated for his approach in guiding them to become well prepared new to practice graduates. He proudly wears his "PROF" baseball cap given to him by his students. John's best moments are when he is teaching and mentoring whether with staff, students or fellow colleagues.

Another notable highlight was becoming the NJLN President where he served from 2018 - 2020. As with any assignment, John put all of his effort into his elected role and collaboratively led his NJLN colleagues through challenging times. Rooted in education, it was the accomplishment of expanding the NJLN Scholarship Program that he has taken great pride in achieving during his term, which directly supports the development of nurses within our state. John remains engaged and continues to play a critical role in the NJLN.

Message from John: I would like to acknowledge all of the nurses of which I have crossed paths over the years. With special attention to all of the nurse leaders who I have worked with who have helped shape my work as a leader. Each of us [nurses] have the ability to change and influence each other merely by our daily interactions with each other and the humanity we demonstrate through our practice.

Nurse Recognition Award

TERESITA C. MEDINA

DNP, MAS, PMH, RN, BC

CLARA MAASS MEDICAL CENTER, RWJBH



Dr. Teresita (Tess) Medina is the Assistant Vice President for Behavioral Health Services at Clara Maass Medical Center, RWJBarnabas Health and the Philippine Nurses Association of New Jersey (PNANJ) President for 2022-2024. Tess is known for her tenacity in the pursuit of quality, safety and excellence in clinical care. She would move mountains to get results, and is known for her skills in program development, talent development, and mentorship.

Through her leadership, Dr. Medina proposed and successfully implemented a radical change in the staff's work hours to 8 hours in a "big bang" approach to decrease staff fatigue and increase productivity in a 100-bed behavioral unit she was managing as an administrator. She researched and drew from her more than two decades of experience in behavioral health--she knew a change in practice was imminent. It was a successful endeavor, and turnover decreased a year after its implementation. There was also a reduction in restraints and seclusion in the adult, acute pediatric units, and psychiatric intensive care units, which are all equally impressive. This endeavor was cited and highlighted in an article published in the Nurse Leader Journal entitled "Fatigue Management." Notwithstanding this incredible feat, she continues to elevate staff morale and patient safety in her current role as the Assistant Vice President for Behavioral Services at Clara Maass Medical Center.

Dr. Medina's passion for the profession extends beyond clinical practice and community advocacy, Tess is also an educator, she teaches as a give back to the nursing community to help prepare future generations of nurses through education and mentorship.

Dr. Medina is the current President of the PNANJ, which is the largest chapter of the Philippine Nurses Association of America, its mission is to uphold the image and welfare of Filipino-American nurses and to provide quality care to the community.

Tess is also actively involved with Saint Nicholas Church as a Eucharistic Minister and Lector. She chaired the Saint Nicholas Tower Restoration Fundraising Project and brought in more than \$50,000.00 for the church. She is currently helping the National Association of Filipino Priests – the USA to raise funds to defray expenses for their upcoming conference and spiritual formation in 2023.

Message from Teresita: I want to thank my husband Ed Medina and my children for their unwavering support for all my endeavors .

Nurse Recognition Award

JACKELYN RODRIGUEZ LUGO,
MS, BSN, RN, CRRN

HMH JFK JOHNSON REHABILITATION INSTITUTE



Jackie is a Certified Rehabilitation Registered Nurse (CRRN) and charge nurse on the Hackensack Meridian Health JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute's Brain Trauma Unit. She holds a master's degree in Medical Microbiology from Long Island University, a bachelor's degree in nursing from State College of Florida and is currently pursuing her Nurse Practitioner degree. A strong supporter of professional practice and staff development, she takes pride in her mentorship and guidance, encouraging her mentees to pursue their dreams with confidence, doing so with empathy and an easy-going attitude, which she hopes to instill in her three children.

Ms. Lugo's utilizes the nursing process to assess, plan, implement and evaluate the nursing care for a designated group of patients on the Brain Trauma Unit. She ensures that comprehensive, individualized patient/family education is provided prior to discharge. She develops and maintains excellent working relationships with all members of the interdisciplinary team to support patient and family goals, and to provide safe, appropriate, quality care. Her passion for rehabilitation nursing and her enthusiasm for patient care is an inspiration to all who know her, along with her mentorship, guidance, and patience with new nurses, which is exemplary.

She is also known to champion a cause, so when the RN-Clinical Advancement Program was implemented she not only embraced it but encouraged her colleagues to advance their practice. She afforded her peers opportunities for education, encourages participation in community service activities, and most importantly, she avails herself and her time to assist her co-workers, she is a Nurse Managers dream!

In her quest to pursue advancement in professional growth, Ms. Lugo joined three team member work groups: *Aspiring Women Leaders*, *Women in Leadership*, and *the Young Professionals*. The common thread in these groups is they are dedicated to the development and advancement of leadership, in particular, of women. There is no doubt that she will be a leader and an asset to each of the resource groups.

Ms. Lugo knows that sometimes, it may be the little things that matter most for patients. Jackie sees the whole person when she assesses her patients and includes the family in developing a plan of care. She is bilingual which is a tremendous asset on the unit for Spanish speaking patients. She takes the time to understand what is important to her patients, and this goes a long way with her personalized gestures.

She is respected by her peers and by the members of the interdisciplinary staff on her unit and was just voted by her peers as *September's Peer Choice Award* winner! One of Jackie's greatest joys is seeing one of her more challenging complex patients "walk" through the door so proudly to thank the staff for giving them their life back. She is then in that proud moment reminded of why she became a nurse in the first place.

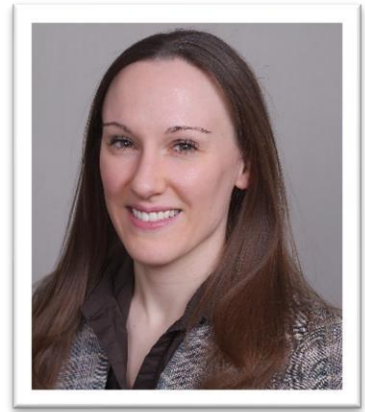
Message from Jackie: I would like to thank Chris Wade, RN, BSN, CRRN for the nomination. My husband, my mother-in-law, family and friends for always supporting me and always working with my work schedule and the kids. To my colleagues thank you for entrusting me to lead you and making it such a wonderful place to work.

Nurse Recognition Award

ALISSA V. WALASZEK

BSN, RN

HMH JFK JOHNSON REHABILITATION INSTITUTE



Alissa Walaszek is a staff nurse working with physical rehabilitation patients including, Brain trauma, stroke, respiratory and neuromuscular disorder patients. Alissa has functioned in the acute care rehabilitation setting at Hackensack Meridian Health JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute since becoming a Registered Nurse in 2016.

Alissa graduated with highest honors when receiving her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Saint Elizabeth University in 2021. Alissa's patient care skills are exemplary, she is detailed oriented, conscientious, compassionate and goes well above and beyond in her care and empathy for patients. She is also a member of the JRI spinal Cord Committee.

She is active in helping to advance nursing in the state of New Jersey, and in addition to her role as a staff nurse caring for patients, Alissa is also currently the New Jersey State Nurses Association Region 03 VP of Membership where she maintains consistent communication with over 1,000 members and plans and executes member engagement programs.

Alissa is also an Institute for Nursing Provider Unit member, which enables her to foster a deeper connection with nurses throughout the state of New Jersey. Alissa has taken an active role helping to empower and engage New Jersey Nurses, where she has demonstrated her leadership skills and commitment to the nursing profession. Alissa is a role model who is already making a significant mark in nursing and is destined to continue to make an impact as a nurse leader in health care.

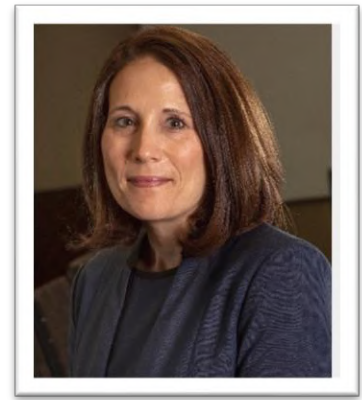
Message from Alissa: Thank you Mom, Dad, and Danielle for your unconditional love and support throughout my journey in life. I would not be the person I am today without you. Thank you Dr. Lois Greene and Norma Rodgers-Frink for your wisdom and encouragement that continuously allow me to grow professionally.

Nurse Recognition Award

J. CEDAR WANG

RN, APN

HOLY NAME MEDICAL CENTER



Cedar Wang is Vice President of Nursing Operations at Holy Name, where she leads and oversees organizational quality and safety initiatives; community outreach and education; simulation learning; palliative and home care services; Holy Name's residential hospice, Villa Marie Claire; and the Sister Claire Tynan School of Nursing.

Cedar demonstrates excellence in nursing through both direct and indirect care of individuals. As a nurse practitioner at Holy Name Medical Center, Cedar provides compassionate care to hospice patients at Holy Name's Villa Marie Claire. She places her patients' needs first, and her priority is to make her patients comfortable and pain-free.

Cedar provides excellent indirect care through her leadership of Holy Name's Institute for Simulation Learning and the Sister Claire Tynan School of Nursing. One of Cedar's greatest career highlights was receiving a \$5 million grant to launch a healthcare simulation center at Holy Name, which soon became the first accredited center in the state of New Jersey. The simulation center has trained more than 5,000 individuals within the Holy Name community. She is an advocate for both the school and simulation center, ensuring both have the resources they need to be successful within the community. Cedar was also instrumental in starting a nurse residency that helps new graduate nurses successfully transition to clinical practice from nursing school.

During the COVID pandemic, Cedar worked shoulder to shoulder with the staff caring for critical patients. She moved beds, transported patients, and consoled grieving families. She provided compassionate care for both staff and patients during an extremely challenging time. During the height of the pandemic, Cedar worked a stretch of 45 days with just a few days off so she could be with the staff and patients who needed her most.

Cedar's contributions to nursing practice extend beyond the walls of Holy Name to her work as a volunteer for the Haiti Health Promise organization where she assisted with securing grants for the development of a hospital-based simulation center at Holy Name's sister hospital in northern Haiti. Cedar provides guidance and fosters collaboration to ensure Hôpital Sacré Coeur in Milot, Haiti, provides the best in clinical care.

Cedar is always available when needed, provides insightful advice when requested, and is a great mentor. Cedar exemplifies all that is good in nursing and has made significant contributions to the Holy Name community and beyond.

Message from Cedar: Thank you to my Holy Name colleagues who make fulfilling our mission a true delight. Special gratitude goes to my family for their tireless support and enduring patience.

**Congratulations to the
New Jersey League for Nursing
on your annual recognition awards.**

**We're especially pleased to recognize
our good friends and colleagues –
J. Cedar Wang and Kathryn Labriola –
who have spent their careers
dedicated to exceptional nursing care
and training the next generation.**

We wish you continued success!



HolyName



Hackensack Meridian
JFK Johnson
Rehabilitation Institute

JFKJohnson.org

CONGRATULATIONS

Hackensack Meridian JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute
is proud to support the **NJ League for Nursing** on the occasion
of its **2022 Nurse Recognition Gala**



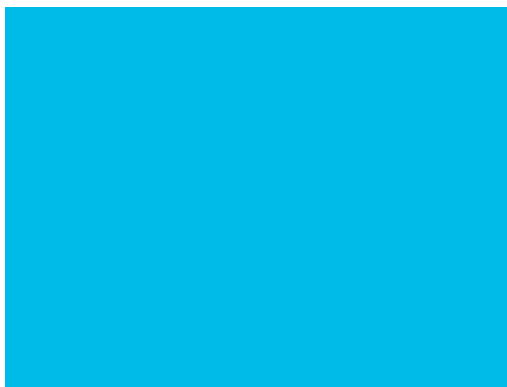
Congratulations to

Jackelyn Rodriguez Lugo, MS, BSN, RN, CRRN

and

Alissa Walaszek, BSN, RN

on receiving the 2022 NJLN Nurse Recognition Award





Philippine Nurses Association of New Jersey, Inc.

Congratulations



Dr. Tess Medina
PNANJ President
2022 - 2024



Dr. Jackie Baras
PNANJ Past President
2020 - 2022



Dr. Mary Jane Genuino
Assistant Professor of Nursing
Felician University

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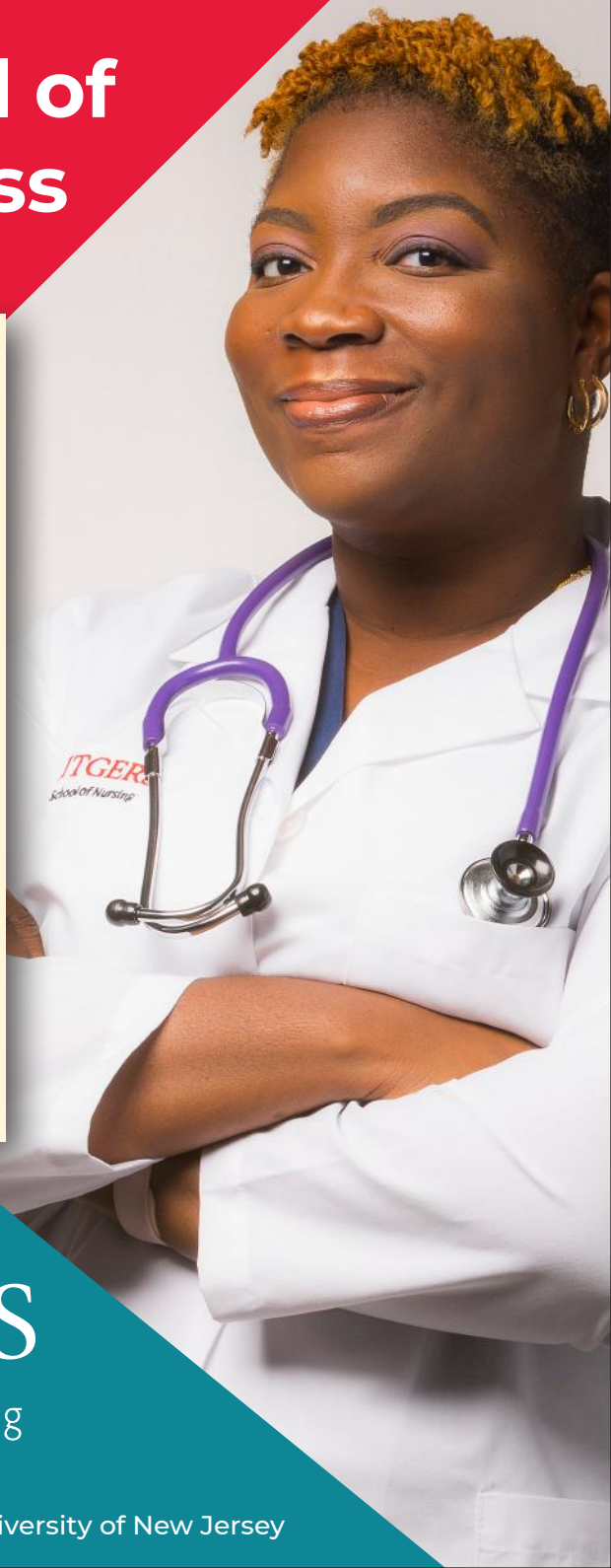
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